

Amendments to the Claims

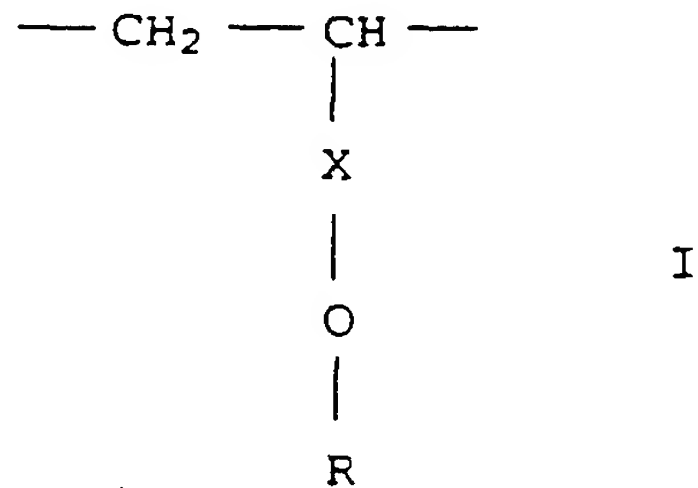
This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1. (Currently Amended) A mixture, ~~containing~~ comprising:

A) a polymer, which consists to an extent of at least 40 wt % of C₁-C₁₈ alkyl (meth)acrylates (~~referred to herein as polyacrylates~~); and

B) a homopolymer or copolymer of vinyl alkyl ether (~~referred to herein as polyvinyl alkyl ether~~), which consists to an extent of at least 70 wt % of structural units of the following formula:



in which X stands for a single bond or a C₁-C₃ alkylene group and R for a C₁-C₆ alkyl group;
wherein the mixture has a water content or organic solvent content of less than 5 parts by weight based on 100 parts by weight of the sum of poly(meth)acrylate (A) and polyvinyl alkyl ether (B).

Claim 2. (Currently Amended) The A mixture as defined in claim 1, wherein the poly(meth)acrylate has a Fikentscher K-value of ranging from 30 to 80 (in 1 % strength solution, solvent tetrahydrofuran, 21° C).

Claim 3. (Currently Amended) The A mixture as defined in claim 1, wherein the mixture contains a photoinitiator.

Claim 4. (Currently Amended) The A mixture as defined in claim 3 1, wherein the photoinitiator is bonded to the poly(meth)acrylate.

Claim 5. (Currently Amended) The A mixture as defined in claim 1, wherein, in the polyvinyl vinyl alkyl ether of formula I, X stands for a single bond and R for a C₁-C₄ alkyl group.

Claim 6. (Currently Amended) The A mixture as defined in claim 1, wherein the polyvinyl alkyl ~~alky~~ ether has a Fikentscher K-value of ranging from 10 to 90 (in 1 % strength solution, solvent tetrahydrofuran, 21° C).

Claim 7. (Currently Amended) The A mixture as defined in claim 1, wherein the proportion of polyvinyl alkyl ether is ranges from 0.1 to 60 parts by weight, based on 100 parts by weight of poly(meth)acrylate (A).

Claim 8. (Canceled)

Claim 9. (Canceled)

Claim 10. (Currently Amended) A method of ~~using a~~ bonding materials to each other,
comprising:

bonding said materials together with the mixture as defined in claim 1 as an adhesive;
~~particularly a self-adhesive.~~

Claim 11. (Currently Amended) The A method ~~of using a mixture~~ as defined in claim 10 ~~1~~, wherein as the adhesive is a hot-melt adhesive.

Claim 12. (Currently Amended) The A method ~~of using a mixture~~ as defined in claim 10 ~~1~~, ~~as an adhesive,~~ wherein at least one of the surfaces of the materials to be bonded by the

adhesive is ~~of~~ a flexible PVC.

Claim 13. (Currently Amended) A method of ~~using a~~ manufacturing a self-adherent article, comprising:

incorporating said mixture as defined in claim 1 as a self-adhesive, ~~particularly a hot-melt adhesive for the manufacture of~~ into the self-adherent article incorporating which incorporates a flexible PVC as a support material.

Claim 14. (Currently Amended) A process for the production of self-adherent articles, comprising:

applying to a substrate ~~wherein the mixture as defined in claim 1 is applied to a substrate,~~
~~such as a label, tape, or large-area film,~~ followed by
cross-linking ~~thereof~~ the applied adhesive by means of UV light.

Claim 15. (Currently Amended) ~~The~~ A process as defined in claim 14, wherein the mixture is applied to the substrate from the melt at ~~temperatures~~ a temperature ranging from 100° to 160° C.

Claim 16. (Original) A self-adherent article obtained by a process as defined in claim 1.

Claim 17. (New) The mixture as defined in claim 1, which contains from 0.0001 to 1 mole of the photoinitiator per 100 g of the poly(meth)acrylate.

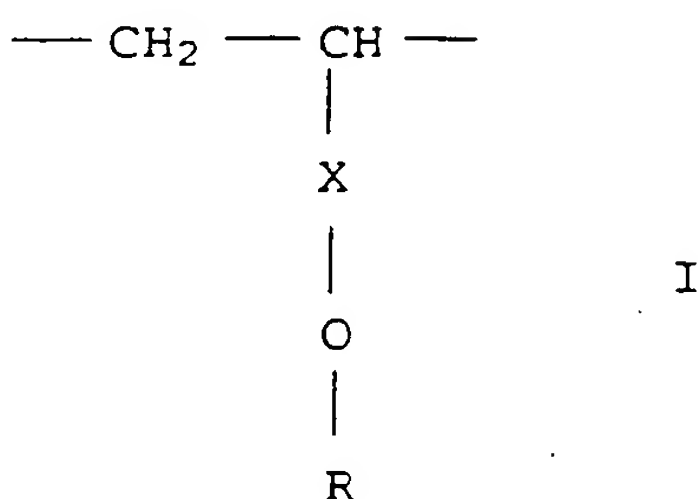
Claim 18. (New) The mixture as defined in claim 17, which contains from 0.0002 to 0.1 mole of the photoinitiator per 100 g of the poly(meth)acrylate.

Claim 19. (New) The method of claim 13, wherein the adhesive is a hot-melt adhesive.

Claim 20. (New) The process of claim 14, wherein the self-adherent article is a label, a tape or a large-area film.

Claim 21. (New) A mixture, comprising:

- A) a polymer, which consists to an extent of at least 40 wt % of C₁-C₁₈ alkyl (meth)acrylates prepared by solvent polymerization of a C₁-C₁₈ alkyl (meth)acrylate; and
- B) a homopolymer or copolymer of vinyl alkyl ether, which consists to an extent of at least 70 wt % of structural units of the following formula:



in which X stands for a single bond or a C₁-C₃ alkylene group and R for a C₁-C₆ alkyl group, the polymer of vinyl alkyl ether being added to the (meth)acrylate polymerization medium prior to removal of solvent from the medium.